

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03466 211402Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-13 OMB-01 ARA-16 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01

NIC-01 EURE-00 /158 W

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P 211325Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8501

UNCLAS LISBON 3466

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, RH

SUBJ: ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT CRITICIZES US-PORTUGUESE
AND US-RHODESIAN POLICY

REF: LISBON 3458

1. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS, LEADING MORNING PAPER, CARRIED AN
EXCLUSIVE FRONT-PAGE INTERVIEW WITH ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT
TODAY.

2. ROOSEVELT SAID HE BELIEVED "CERTAIN POWERFUL
INTERESTS" IN THE US WERE OUT TO DISCREDIT HIS NAME
BY UTILIZING LOUIS MASTRIANA IN A CAMPAIGN AGAINST HIM.
WHY WOULD SOMEONE WANT TO DISCREDIT HIS NAME? BECAUSE,
HE SAID, HE HAS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE WITH US
POLICY TOWARD PORTUGAL AND RHODESIA IN LETTERS TO
PRESIDENT NIXON, DR. KISSINGER, AND THE NEW YORK TIMES
AND OTHER NEWSPAPERS. IT IS HIS BELIEF "THAT THE BEST
STEPS TO ACHIEVE THE WELL BEING OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLES
HAVE BEEN AND ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE PORTUGUESE AND THAT
US FOREIGN POLICY SHOULD SUPPORT ... THOSE WHO DO SOME-
THING FOR THEIR PEOPLE, LIKE PORTUGAL AND, IN A CERTAIN
WAY ... LIKE RHODESIA, WHICH FOLLOWS PORTUGAL'S EXAMPLE.
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PAGE 02 LISBON 03466 211402Z

I THINK PORTUGAL'S CAUSE IS ONE WHICH MERITS OUR SUPPORT

BECAUSE PORTUGAL IS RIGHT AND IS ACTING INTELLIGENTLY."

3. HE ADDED: "NOW THIS IS CONTRARY TO SOME ASPECTS OF US FOREIGN POLICY AND, ABOVE ALL, TO THE INTERESTS OF MANY POWERFUL GROUPS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THESE INTEREST GROUPS THINK THAT THE US PUBLIC OR THE US GOVERNMENT MIGHT LISTEN TO AND AGREE WITH MY VIEWS. THUS THE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO DISCREDIT ME BY MEANS OF A GREAT SCANDAL LIKE THIS."

4. ROOSEVELT ALSO COMPLAINED THAT US EMBASSY IN LISBON, EVER SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN PORTUGAL, HAS "CRITICIZED" HIM FOR HIS PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH COL. KNOX, RODESIA'S REPRESENTATIVE IN LISBON. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, IMPLY THE EMBASSY WAS A PART TO THE "ATTACKS" ON HIM.

5. AFTER AGAIN DENYING "THE RIDICULOUS ACCUSATIONS" AGAINST HIM, HE THANKED THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE FOR THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE HE COULD LIVE THE REST OF HIS LIFE IN PORTUGAL, "DOING WHAT I CAN FOR PORTUGAL, TRYING TO CONVINCE AMERICA THAT SOME ASPECTS OF ITS FOREIGN POLICY WITH RESPECT TO PORTUGAL HAVE NOT BEEN CORRECT."

POST

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